

POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR WRITTEN PORTIONS OF PROJECT NOT TYPED AND WITHOUT WORD COUNT LISTED**

Everybody Sees the Ants by A.S.King

Outside Reading Project 2nd Quarter

Directions:

JOURNAL ENTRIES: (30 Points; worth 10 points each)

You must submit at least 3 journal entries. **200 words minimum, typed, with word count at and of each paragraph!**

1. Have you ever had something terrible happen to you and you kept it a secret? Why? Did you ever tell?
2. Lucky is very self-conscious, and he has a self-deprecating humor, which is part of the charm of the novel. Describe a situation when you have felt self-conscious, and include the thoughts that went through your head.
3. The adults in this novel seem to run away or hide from their problems. Have you ever hidden from or run away from a problem, or maybe watched someone else? What was the result of running away or hiding?
4. Discuss some of the options you think Lucky's parents had in handling Nader's bullying. What do you think they should have done to help their son?
5. The adults in this novel seem to think that Lucky is off his rocker. Has there ever been a time in your life when an adult thought you were crazy? Were you ever proven to be the sane one in the situation?
6. In the novel, Lucky has to try to determine, in somewhat murky waters, what his idea of being "a man" and what masculinity really means these days. Evaluate some of our masculine stereotypes and give your thoughts about what it really means to be "a man" today.
7. What character do you feel you can connect with the most? Why?
8. Which character made you the angriest in the novel? Explain why.
9. Some critics have said that the author of this novel wrote about some controversial topics. Others applaud the fact that someone finally wrote on these same topics. If you could, what topic (that you have not yet found sufficiently explored) would you want an author to explore and why?

SHORT ANSWER (30 Points; worth 10 points each)

You must complete number 11. Then, choose two other questions to respond to (**200 words minimum, typed, with word count at and of each paragraph!**):

1. Granddad says that "every crime has hundreds of victims." Explain what he means by that. Who are the victims of Luck's bullying, besides Lucky?
2. Why do you think Lucky describes his mom as a squid and his dad as a turtle?
3. What purpose do Lucky's dreams about his granddad serve?
4. Lucky's granddad is sometimes missing limbs when Lucky visits, but not always the same ones. What do you think the inconsistent and ever-changing missing limbs mean in his dream?

5. Why does Lucky have a hard time explaining what happened with the banana, and that it happened to him?
6. What does Lucky mean when he says "I think that's a perfect way to explain how I feel about everything in the world. I don't even use the stupid shampoo"?
7. Explain the various ironies in the book.
8. Describe Lucky's perception of his parents' relationship. Do you think his perception is accurate?
9. Describe/explain how the story is narrated and how the type of narration was effective or not effective.
10. Lucky's relationship with his father grows and changes during the story. Describe how Lucky feels about his father at the start of the novel and why, then explain how he feels about him at the end.
11. What do you think about gender stereotyping for books? Some people will only recommend book with male protagonists to boys, and those with female protagonists to girls. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this type of gender stereotyping? What are your thoughts on the matter?

CREATIVE PROJECTS: Choose two of the following projects to complete. Make sure to complete thoroughly and with details. (20 points each)

1. Describe, in a narrative, a time when you “saw the ants.” This should be about one page in length, typed.
2. Following the example of Lucky’s “Reality Enchiladas,” write a food recipe of your own – it can be whatever food you like. ***Make it visually appealing and make sure to include directions for cooking.***
3. Dreams, according to Swiss psychologist Carl Jung, are a means of expressing issues and concerns buried deep within the psyche. Describe one of your vivid dreams and analyze it.
4. Conduct a survey of your own about a topic that is important to teens (please make it school appropriate!) and analyze the results. You must support your question with some research, provide adequate details for your survey, graph the results, and draw a conclusion. (counts as two)
5. Draw a comic strip of six of the most important scenes in the novel.
6. Create a short video that raises the awareness of bullying or discourages bullying – your audience can be either adults or students (you decide).
7. Compile a list of at least 3 books you think boys should read (if you are a girl) or girls should read (if you are a boy). Explain, in a short paragraph for each book, why reading these particular book are important for the opposite sex to read.
8. In a painting or drawing, or using a combination of art forms (including, **but not exclusively**, computer generated art) visually represent a time in your life when you felt helpless in a situation. Include a short paragraph to verbally explain this moment and your feelings.